

Board of Commissioners Meeting

December 28, 2011

Chairperson Cameron called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:31 p.m. on December 28, 2011, at 701 Vine Street in the main conference room. The following were present:

Commissioner Hallanger
Commissioner Bergquist
District Secretary Bouchard
Scott Neves

Commissioner Merritt
Chief LaFave
EMS Administrator Ribelin

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve the December 14, 2011, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Administration of Oath:

Chairperson Cameron administered the Oath of Office for Commissioner to Scott Neves.

Awards & Recognition:

Chief LaFave thanked Commissioner Bergquist for his six years of service to the Fire District. He was presented with a Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue blanket in appreciation.

Chairperson Cameron read a letter from Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One thanking the Board for supporting Chief LaFave as a fire service leader in our state. Chief LaFave recently addressed their officers group on the topic of leadership; his presentation was described as “captivating” and appealing to a wide array of people. In addition, Chief LaFave’s assistance on State Mobilization incidents was noted along with his leadership style and message at those incidents. Excellent job Chief LaFave!

Also, Commissioner Merritt reported that Chief LaFave provided training for the Safe Schools Coalition group for I-100 and I-700 that was very well received.

Public Comment:

None

Verbal Reports and/or Discussions:

Chief LaFave reported the Labor/Management group had a good planning session last week. One of the items that was addressed was an MOU for an additional one-half percent COLA salary increase. It was also noted that the non-represented employees traditionally receive the same increase as the labor group.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bergquist to approve an MOU with the Union for an additional one-half percent salary increase effective January 1, 2012. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Written Reports:

None

Action Items:

Resolution #716-2011; Transfer to Reserve Fund: As the Board approved in the Supplemental Budget #2 for 2011, this Resolution authorizes transferring \$250,000 from the General Expense Fund to the Reserve Fund. This will bring the total of the Reserve Fund up to \$650,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to transfer \$250,000 from the General Expense Fund to the Reserve Fund. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #717-2011: Salaries Effective January 1, 2012: This Resolution includes the additional one-half percent increase.

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve Resolution #717-2011. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

HazMat Agreement Extension with City of Vancouver: The terms of the agreement are the same; only the dates are changing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the HazMat Agreement Extension with the City of Vancouver. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Tabled for Future Meetings:

None

Chief's Report:

- Chief LaFave and District Secretary Bouchard have been continuing work on the 2012 budget. The goal is to have \$750,000 in the Reserve Fund, which will be just under 12%.
- Asst. Chief Headley and Capt. Zainfeld have been working on changes to the volunteer program.
- Chief LaFave would like to have a plan to replace Asst. Chief Headley by October 1st so there will be a three-month overlap. Asst. Chief Headley is planning to retire on

December 31, 2012. The replacement will need to be up to speed on the volunteer program and administrative issues. Commissioner Merritt would like to see Asst. Chief Headley's replacement come on board sooner. Chairperson Cameron prefers his replacement to start October 1st unless there are specific projects to work on.

- Crews have been fairly busy; we are close to 4,000 calls for service this year.
- We have not heard from the City of Kelso requesting an extension of the MOU to reduce their contractual payments to us again. They are apparently planning on the same \$60,000 reduction, however, they have not contacted us about it. Chief LaFave will follow up with City Manager Denny Richards.
- Discussion of lid lift; 2012 is year number five of the six-year lid lift.
- There are approximately 3,000 patients in the County that are now without mental health care. This issue will affect us as we expect to see more calls with those complaints.
- The used medic unit we recently purchased is very close to being in service.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve payroll totaling \$142,546.30 for warrant numbers 42557 through 42580 dated December 20, 2011. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve vouchers totaling \$41,302.29 for warrant numbers 42581 through 42631 dated December 30, 2011. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Merritt reported that the annual Legislative Workshop will be on January 25th; he and Chief LaFave will be attending.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Cameron at 6:24 p.m.

Chairperson

District Secretary